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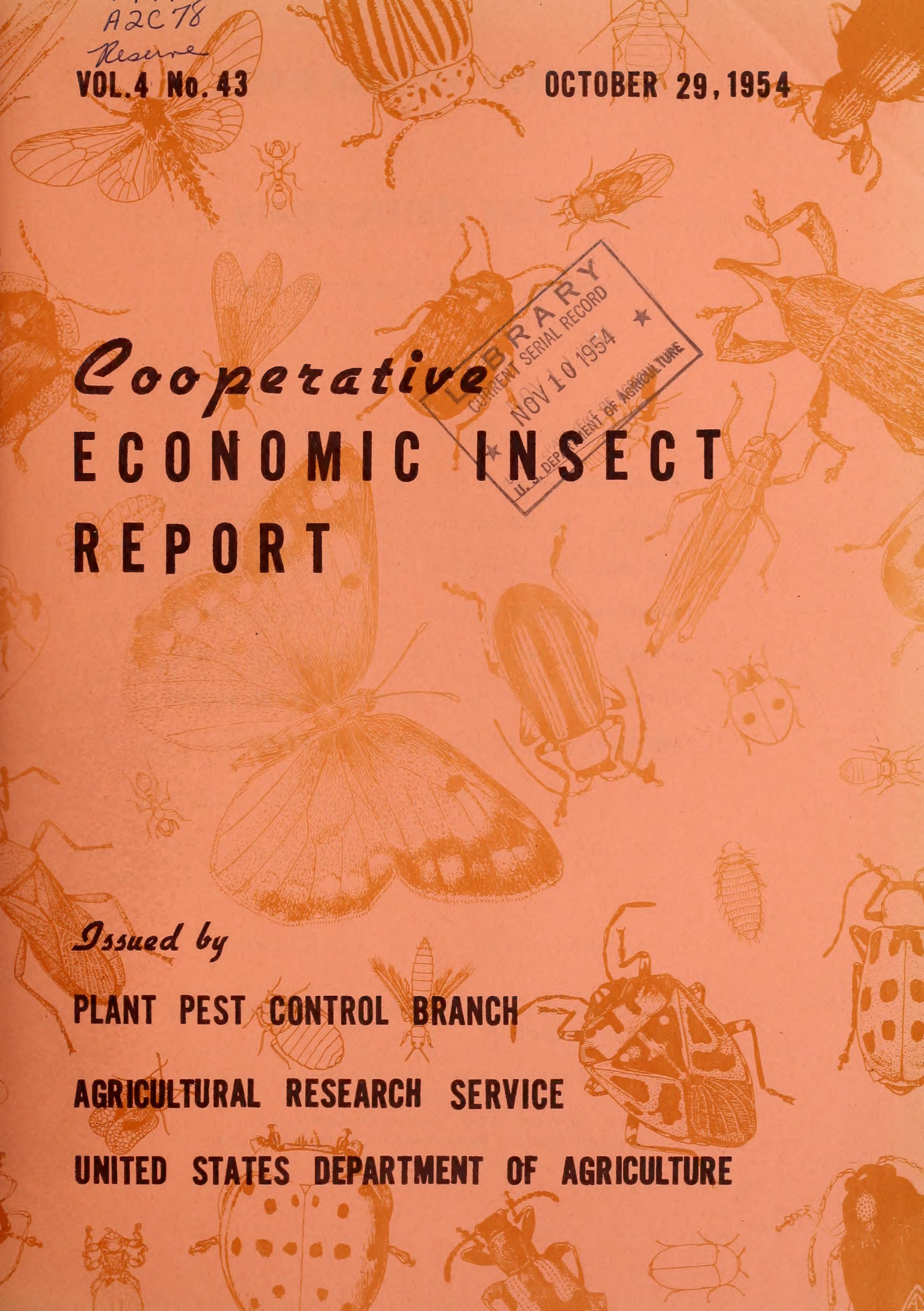

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperative ECONOMIC INSECT REPORT

Issued by

PLANT PEST CONTROL BRANCH

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

PLANT PEST CONTROL BRANCH

ECONOMIC INSECT SURVEY SECTION

The Cooperative Economic Insect Report is issued weekly as a service to American Agriculture. Its contents are compiled from information supplied by cooperating State, Federal, and industrial entomologists and other agricultural workers. In releasing this material the Branch serves as a clearing house and does not assume responsibility for accuracy of the material.

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Volume 4 October 29, 1954 No. 43

COOPERATIVE ECONOMIC INSECT REPORT

Highlights of Insect Conditions

May have heavy general infestation of FALL ARMYWORM on small grains in some Texas areas. Light infestation in northwestern Arkansas. (page 948).

CLOVER ROOT BORER survey in Ohio. (page 948).

SWEETPOTATO WEEVIL causing heavy damage in Washington and Okaloosa Counties, Florida. (page 952).

PINK BOLLWORM inspection reports. (page 953).

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE outbreaks continue in northern Alabama and southwest Mississippi. (page 954).

FOREST INSECT outlook for late fall in Southern States. (page 954).

Summary of INSECT CONDITIONS - 1954 - in Nevada. (page 959).

A WEEVIL (Mecinus pyraster) found in Maryland. First record for United States. (page 957).

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NOTES received too late for inclusion in the body of this issue .(page 958).

Reports in this issue are for the week ending October 22, 1954, unless otherwise designated.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 26, 1954

Dry, sunny weather, prevailing in most of the Country last week, was ideal for the fall harvest but continued the drought situation in the South (from Louisiana through western South Carolina) where fall planting was still delayed and water shortages continued critical in some sections. Streams in the upper Ohio Valley which were above flood stage as a result of heavy hurricane rains of the previous period had fallen to normal levels by the end of this week. Significant rainfall during the week was nearly all limited to parts of the Northwest and a belt extending southward from southeastern Kansas and southwestern Missouri to the Gulf Coast. Totals in the Northwest ranged up to more than 4 inches along the Pacific Coast and from a few hundredths up to more than an inch in eastern Washington, northern Idaho, and in Montana. In southeastern Oklahoma and eastern Texas totals ranged up to more than 4 inches and resulted in some flooding along the Sabine River in the latter State.

The first part of the week was unseasonably cool in the eastern half of the Nation, with scattered light frost as far south as northern Mississippi in the Mississippi Valley and in northern Florida along the Atlantic Coast on the 21st. Heavy frost was reported in parts of Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri. This cool period resulted in temperatures for the week averaging several degrees below normal in the area south of the Great Lakes and east of the Mississippi River. Rising temperatures during the latter part of the period reached above normal levels in most of this area over the weekend. Unseasonably high temperatures, with some record highs in the extreme south, prevailed in the far Western Interior until the weekend when the passage of a cold front resulted in a sharp drop. Minima dropped into the 30's in the southern valleys of Arizona for the first time since spring. Snowfall was rather general over the central and northern Rocky Mountain States, and also fell over parts of the Dakotas with accumulations of an inch reported in the Black Hills. (Summary Supplied by U. S. Weather Bureau).

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECTS

CORN EARWORM (Heliothis armigera) - ARKANSAS - Alfalfa fields in northwestern area being attacked by heavy infestations. Averaged 25 larvae to 20 sweeps of 12-inch net. Larvae ranged from newly-hatched to 3/4 grown. Fifty-six moths collected at Fayetteville October 21. (Warren). FLORIDA - Heliothis sp. larvae infesting 16 percent of 3-acre peanut field in Alachua County. (Van Pelt). ARIZONA - Severely injuring foliage of corn in Laveen area October 14. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.). TEXAS - Local heavy infestation on corn at Marfa. Larvae in stalk. (Cowger).

A PYRALID - FLORIDA - Young plant-cane fields in Fellsmere area show 100 percent infestation with 3 to 6 leaves per plant showing injury. Infestation lighter in Belle Glade area. (Genung, Questel).

LESSER CORNSTALK BORER (Elasmopalpus lignosellus) - TEXAS - Medium local infestation on wheat in Floyd County. Damaging seedlings by boring into stems. (Rodgers).

SOUTHWESTERN CORN BORER (Diatraea grandiosella) - ARIZONA - Feeding on ears of sweet corn at Mesa October 14. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.).

CORN BORERS (Diatraea spp.) - KANSAS - Larvae, probably southwestern corn borer, found in Cloud, Mitchell, Ottawa, Osborne, Saline and Smith Counties. Winter larval forms in 4-20 percent of stalks in most fields surveyed. (Matthew).

FALSE WIREWORMS - KANSAS - Eleodes spp. light to moderate in wheat fields and unplanted stubble fields of Cloud, Dickinson, Mitchell, Ottawa, Osborne and Saline Counties. From 1 to 5 larvae per square yard in most fields. No live beetles found in any field surveyed. (Matthew). UTAH - Larvae and adults numerous in one field of fall dryland wheat near Magna. (Knowlton).

A CORIZID (prob. Liorhyssus hyalinus) - ARIZONA - Found in large numbers in sorghum heads in Salt River Valley October 14. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.).

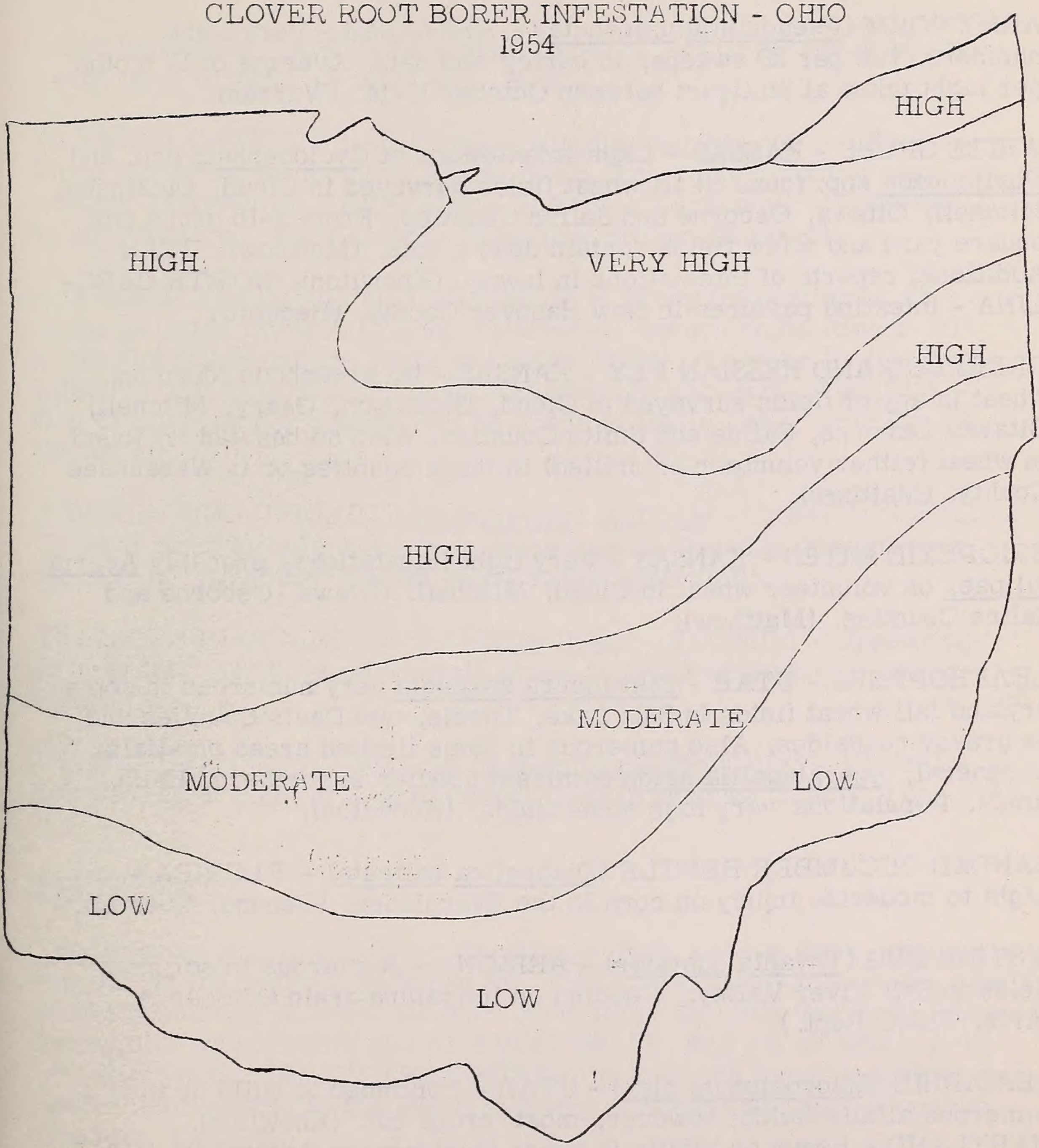
A MEALYBUG (Pseudococcus boninsis) - FLORIDA - Abundant in maturing cane at Belle Glade. (Genung, Questel).

FALL ARMYWORM (*Laphygma frugiperda*) - TENNESSEE - Severe injury to rye and other grasses in Clarksville area. (Scott). KANSAS - Larvae found in corn stalks in fields of Cloud, Mitchell, Osborne and Smith Counties. Most fields have 4-8% of ears on ground. (Matthew). ARKANSAS - Infestations in winter grain general but light over northwestern counties, though economic damage not reported in this area. (Warren). FLORIDA - Serious injury in one corn planting where about 100 percent of stalks showed damage or young larvae. (Genung, Questel). ARIZONA - Numerous on heads of late sorghum in Salt River Valley October 14. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.). TEXAS - Medium to heavy on pastures, oats, vetch, rye and clovers in several counties. Several reports state that entire or large portions of small grain fields have been eaten into the ground. This may indicate beginning of rather general heavy infestation, especially in areas that have recently received rain. (Cook, Garrett, Lindsey, Cook, Pfanstiel, Adams, Davis).

Clover Root Borer Survey in Ohio - 1954

A survey of clover root borer, (*Hylastinus obscurus*) infestation was conducted in 104 fields in 51 counties in Ohio in 1954. The procedure consisted of digging and dissecting the root borers from 30 roots per field. All samples were taken in late July and early August. Only first harvest year fields were selected for sampling. With some exceptions, 2 fields were sampled in each county. Every field sampled had some root borers present. The percent of roots infested in individual fields ranged from 9.0 to 100.0 with an average of 67.4 percent. The number of individual borers per root in individual fields ranged from 0.27 to 13.68 with an average of 3.69. A generalized distribution map (see opposite page) has been constructed on the following basis. If less than 25 percent of roots were infested, the area was classified as low; 25 percent to 60 percent infested, moderate; 60 percent to 80 percent infested, high; over 80 percent infested, very high. (Weaver and Pruess).

CLOVER ROOT BORER INFESTATION - OHIO
1954



LOW < 25 percent

MODERATE 25 - 60 percent

HIGH 60 - 80 percent

VERY HIGH > 80 percent

ARMYWORM (*Pseudaletia unipuncta*) - ARKANSAS - Very light numbers, two per 20 sweeps, in barley and oats. Average of 12 moths per night taken at Stuttgart between October 10-14. (Warren).

WHITE GRUBS - KANSAS - Light infestations of *Cyclocephala* spp. and *Phyllophaga* spp. found in all wheat fields surveyed in Cloud, Dickinson, Mitchell, Ottawa, Osborne and Saline Counties. From 3-15 grubs per square yard and a few fields contain dead plants. (Matthew). UTAH - Additional reports of infestations in lawns. (Knowlton). NORTH CAROLINA - Infesting pastures in New Hanover County. (Baggett).

GREENBUG AND HESSIAN FLY - KANSAS - No greenbugs found on wheat in any of fields surveyed in Cloud, Dickinson, Geary, Mitchell, Ottawa, Osborne, Saline and Smith Counties. Also no hessian fly found in wheat (either volunteer or drilled) in these counties or in Wabaunsee County. (Matthew).

ERIOPHYID MITES - KANSAS - Very light infestations, probably *Aceria tulipae*, on volunteer wheat in Cloud, Mitchell, Ottawa, Osborne and Saline Counties. (Matthew).

LEAFHOPPERS - UTAH - *Dikraneura carneola* very numerous in some dryland fall wheat fields in Salt Lake, Tooele, and Davis Counties and on grassy roadsides. Also numerous in some limited areas on alfalfa. In general, *Aceratagallia arida* dominant species in northern alfalfa fields. Populations very high some fields. (Knowlton).

BANDED CUCUMBER BEETLE (*Diabrotica balteata*) - FLORIDA - Light to moderate injury on corn in the Everglades. (Genung, Questel).

A STINK BUG (*Thyanta custator*) - ARIZONA - Numerous in sorghum fields in Salt River Valley. Feeding on immature grain October 14. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.).

PEA APHID (*Macrosiphum pisi*) - UTAH - Continued to build up in numerous alfalfa fields; however, most crops cut. (Knowlton). MARYLAND - Heavy on alfalfa in upper Montgomery County. (U. Md., Ent. Dept.).

LEAFHOPPERS - ARIZONA - Main cause of loss of 40 acres of soybeans near Elfrida. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.).

ALFALFA CATERPILLAR (Colias philodice eurytheme) - UTAH - More numerous in northern alfalfa fields than during most of the season. (Knowlton). ARKANSAS - Eight to 10 larvae per 20 sweeps in northwestern alfalfa fields. Parasites active. (Warren).

A GRASSWORM (Mocis sp.) - GEORGIA - Heavy infestation on 25 acres of grass in Irwin County, October 4. Severe defoliation to 20 acres Coastal Bermuda grass in Coffee County, October 11. (Geiger). Infesting oats in Screven County, October 20. (Jordan). FLORIDA - One to 2 larvae per square foot on grass at Eagle Lake, Polk County. (Wesson).

A BURROWING CRICKET (Anurogryllus muticus) - NORTH CAROLINA - Causing considerable concern to home owners because of numerous mounds in lawns after recent heavy rains. (Mitchell).

YELLOW SUGARCANE APHID (Sipha flava) - FLORIDA - Appearing in very light numbers on Pangola grass in the Everglades. (Genung, Questel).

VELVETBEAN CATERPILLAR (Anticarsia gemmatilis) - FLORIDA - Infesting 16 percent of 2-acre peanut field in Alachua County. (Van Pelt).

FRUIT INSECTS

Peach Insect Activity in South Carolina - 1954: Losses were comparatively low during the season. Jarrings for PLUM CURCULIO indicated a small initial population in areas where a good spray program had been followed. Damage to twigs by ORIENTAL FRUIT MOTH was not as heavy as in previous years. PEACH TREE BORERS remain the most important and destructive insects to the peach industry in South Carolina. (Cochran, Goodwin, Oct. 14).

APPLE MAGGOT (Rhagoletis pomonella) - NORTH CAROLINA - Moderate infestation in apples in Avery County. (Turnipseed).

APPLE SEED CHALCID (Torymus druparum) - NORTH CAROLINA - Generally distributed through Avery County, infestation light to moderate. (Turnipseed).

TRUCK CROP INSECTS

SWEETPOTATO WEEVIL (Cylas formicarius elegantulus) - FLORIDA - Infesting sweetpotatoes at Orange Hill, Washington County. Practically all of southern half of county infested. Very heavy some instances with near loss of crop. (Lamb). Also very heavy infestations around Laurel Hill, Okaloosa County. Considerable loss in many fields with some being abandoned. (Lamb, Frederic).

SEED-CORN MAGGOT (Hylemya cilicrura) - OKLAHOMA - Fly populations continue light with no larval infestations in spinach buds. (Walton).

LEAF MINERS (Liriomyza sp.) - FLORIDA - Scattered infestations on tomato plants in Collier County. (Lander).

HORNWORMS (Protoparce sp.) - FLORIDA - Twenty to 30 per plant in one tomato field in Collier County. Light in two other fields. (Lander).

STINK BUGS - FLORIDA - Acrosternum hilare averaging 0-5 adults per plant on snap beans at Quincy. Moderate infestation of Nezara viridula. (May).

BANDED CUCUMBER BEETLE (Diabrotica balteata) - FLORIDA - Light to moderate injury on beans in the Everglades. (Genung, Questel).

CABBAGE APHID (Brevicoryne brassicae) - MARYLAND - Light to heavy in cabbage in Montgomery County. (U. Md., Ent. Dept.).

CABBAGE CATERPILLARS-SOUTH CAROLINA - Several species seriously infesting 50-acre collard planting at Lexington. (Nettles). NORTH CAROLINA - Cabbage webworm (Hellula rogatalis) reported infesting some fields of turnips and collards 100 percent in Wake County. (Brett). FLORIDA - From 0-5 cabbage webworm larvae per plant on collards at Havana. (May). CALIFORNIA - Imported cabbageworm (Pieris rapae) common in cabbage fields in Los Angeles County due to inadequate control and buildup in abandoned fields. Cabbage looper (Trichoplusia ni) common during October in cole crops in Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties. (Elmore).

SALT-MARSH CATERPILLAR (Estigmene acrea) - CALIFORNIA - Abundant on alfalfa and migrating to bean land in Orange County. Ten per square foot along roadside and 2-5 per square yard in alfalfa fields and 25-100 per volunteer sugar beet plant. (Elmore).

GARDEN CENTIPEDE (Scutigerella immaculata) - CALIFORNIA - Injuring turnips in fields near Norwalk, Los Angeles County. (Stone).

SUGAR-BEET WIREWORM (Limonius californicus) - CALIFORNIA - Damage 67 percent of sweetpotatoes in untreated fields in Orange County. (Stone).

COTTON INSECTS

PINK BOLLWORM (Pectinophora gossypiella) - Between September 16-30, heavy movement of transient cotton pickers continued through some of the traffic inspection stations on the borders between TEXAS and LOUISIANA and OKLAHOMA and ARKANSAS, particularly at Fulton, Arkansas, where 83 pink bollworm larvae were detected in a small portion of intercepted contraband material. Twenty pink bollworms were intercepted in material at the Many, Louisiana station and 9 pink bollworms at the Garland, Arkansas station. At the Vicksburg, Mississippi station, 10 pink bollworms were intercepted in cotton bolls carried by a tourist.

During the period October 1-15 gin trash inspections were completed for season in GEORGIA and ALABAMA with negative results. Inspection in the 8 quarantined counties of ARKANSAS also completed with six(Sevier, Little River, Howard, Hempstead, Miller and Lafayette) of the eight counties found infested this season. Although all of OKLAHOMA is under quarantine, three counties, Johnson, Marshall and Okfuskee, have been found infested for first time. In counties previously infested, most are showing a slightly higher infestation than heretofore. Gin trash inspection in northeast TEXAS completed with most counties having about same degree of infestation as last year. Most counties in South Plains area of Texas showing higher infestation than last year. (PBW Cont. Proj.).

COTTON LEAF PERFORATOR (Bucculatrix thurberiella) - ARIZONA - First instars have been identified as cause of widespread red spotting of cotton leaves in Elfrida area. Spots develop over the mines. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.).

FOREST, ORNAMENTAL AND SHADE TREE INSECTS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE (Dendroctonus frontalis) - ALABAMA - Serious outbreaks continuing in northern area. During second week of September, aerial reconnaissance showed infestations concentrated in national forest areas of northern Alabama with heaviest infestations in Clay, Talladega, Cleburne, Winston and Lawrence Counties. MISSISSIPPI - Infestations concentrated in southwest area, heaviest in Copiah and Lincoln Counties. Survey and control operations continue in both states. (So. For. Ins. & Dis. Rept., Oct. 15). TEXAS - Areas suspected of being infested were investigated during September but no infestations caused by this beetle were found. (Tex. For. Serv.).

Forest Insect Outlook for Late Fall, Southern States: In SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE outbreak areas, broods may be expected to scatter to single trees, thus making detection more difficult. IPS BEETLE attacks will probably increase near recent wildfire areas. PINE BARK WEEVILS, following aestivation, will renew activity near areas recently logged, burned, or otherwise disturbed. Heavy feeding by RED-HEADED SAWFLY in young pine plantations may result in occasional high mortality to trees. Scattered feeding by a SAWFLY (Neodiprion exitans) may be apparent in mature shortleaf stands. Flight and egg-laying period of a LOBLOLLY SAWFLY (*Neodiprion* sp.) will take place in south Arkansas, Louisiana and near Daisetta, Texas. (So. For. Ins. and Dis. Rept., Oct. 15).

IPS BARK BEETLES - Aerial reconnaisance over portions of Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana during second week of September showed infestation widespread throughout area surveyed but occurred mostly in scattered single trees or in small groups of trees. Attacks most numerous in Blount County, Alabama, and Shelby and Newton Counties, Texas. (So. For. Ins. & Dis. Rept., Oct. 15).

FULLER ROSE BEETLE (*Pantomorus godmani*) - NORTH CAROLINA - Reported on various trees and shrubs in Henderson, Lee and Vance Counties. (Jones).

A LEAF-FOOTED BUG (*Leptoglossus* sp.) - ARIZONA - Adults have damaged ripening fruit of palms, pomegranate, tangerine and other ornamentals at Cave Creek and Tucson. (Ariz. Coop. Rept.).

WEBWORMS - TEXAS - Light infestation on pines in east Texas. Attacking both planted seedlings and natural reproduction. (Tex. For. Serv.).

A CURCULIO (*Pseudocneorhinus bifasciatus*) - PENNSYLVANIA - Collected from ivy in September at Media. (Menusan).

INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND ANIMALS

MOSQUITOES - UTAH - Annoyance in Logan area has been by *Aedes vexans*, *Mansonia perturbans*, *Culex tarsalis*, *Anopheles freeborni*, and *Aedes nigromaculus* in decreasing order. Because of subnormal temperatures and drought during summer, 1954 season is considered below normal in population. (Beadle).

HOUSE FLIES - OKLAHOMA - Populations in buildings are higher in uncontrolled areas than at any time this year. (Howell).

BLACK WIDOW SPIDER (Latrodectus mactans) - MARYLAND - Concern to householders in Prince Georges County. (U. Md., Ent. Dept.).

HORN FLY (Siphona irritans) - FLORIDA - Averaging 75 adults per animal in herd of 30 cattle at Jonesville. (Van Pelt).

STORED-PRODUCTS INSECTS

STORED-GRAIN INSECTS - SOUTH CAROLINA - Survey of stored grain on the farm and in the Federal 100,000 bushel storage at Newberry disclosed low insect populations except for ANGOUMOIS GRAIN MOTH. (Nettles, Oct. 12). TEXAS - Medium local infestation of confused flour beetles (Tribolium sp.) and fungus beetles (Typhaea stercorea) in Victoria County. (Fuller).

ANGOUMOIS GRAIN MOTH (Sitotroga cerealella) - MARYLAND - Heavy infestation in stored corn on two farms in Montgomery County. (U. Md., Ent. Dept.).

DERMESTIDS - KANSAS - Dermestids (not khapra beetles) have been received from several counties throughout the State. Populations in stored grain this year have been much higher than in past years. (Matthew).

RICE WEEVIL (Sitophilus oryza) - NORTH CAROLINA - Reports indicate lower infestation in stored wheat than a year ago. Rather large numbers of weevils in fields of early maturing hybrid corn. (Jones).

LESSER GRAIN BORER (Rhizopertha dominica) - OKLAHOMA - Found in large percentage of stored grain bins in Garfield County. From 1 to 10 or 15 per probe sample of wheat. (Stiles).

MISCELLANEOUS INSECTS

A BAT BUG (Cimex pilosellus) - PENNSYLVANIA - Infesting a house in Montgomery County, Oct. 11. (Menusan).

A TINEID (Choropleca visaliella) - PENNSYLVANIA - Collected in house in Philadelphia. (Menusan).

A WEEVIL (Mecinus pyraster (Hrbst.)) - MARYLAND - Two specimens found at Cockeysville in September have been determined by R. E. Warner as this species. According to Miss Warner this is the first record of this genus in the United States; however, this genus and species is quite common in Europe in galls of Plantago lanceolata. The larvae of Mecinus attack the Scrophulareaceae and the Plantaginaceae. Three additional adults were found in plantain dug at the site of the original discovery. (Harding).

BENEFICIAL INSECTS

A PARASITE (Anagyrus antoninae) - FLORIDA - This parasite of Rhodes-grass scale has become established in Clewiston area, Hendry County. (Genung, Questel).

RECENT IMPORTANT INTERCEPTIONS AT PORTS OF ENTRY

Living specimens of the citrus black fly, Aleurocanthus woglumi, were intercepted recently on citrus leaves in baggage from Navajoa, Sonora, Mexico at Nogales, Arizona. (Darling). Five adults, 15 nymphs and many eggs were taken from two lots of leaves.

This insect is considered an injurious pest of citrus in Mexico, and in parts of Central America, the West Indies and the Far East. More than 100 host plants have been recorded for the citrus black fly. A few of the more important reported are various species of citrus, mango, coffee and gardenia. Injury to citrus generally consists of a reduction in the vitality of the tree due to the feeding of the nymphs on the underside of the leaves and the development of sooty mold that mars the appearance of the foliage and fruit following an attack by this insect. Interceptions of the citrus black fly have increased considerably in recent years at Mexican border ports following the introduction and spread of the insect in Mexico. It is not yet known to occur in the United States. (Compiled by Peltier, PQ Branch).

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WYOMING - GRASSHOPPERS - A few adults can still be found in areas surrounding crop land in Platte and Goshen Counties. BOXELDER BUG (Leptocoris trivittatus) migration continues into buildings in Crook County. CLOVER MITE (Bryobia praetiosa) migration into dwellings causing concern to property owners in Platte County. GREATER WAX MOTH (Galleria mellonella) causing damage to stored supers of honey in Goshen County. (Poyner). Cattle lice being found on cattle in Hot Springs County, though no control methods being used. (Woody).

SUMMARY OF INSECT CONDITIONS - 1954

NEVADA

Reported by H. E. Gallaway

A summary of insect conditions throughout the State of Nevada during the period of January 1, to October 1, 1954, is as follows:

Cereal and Forage Insects: ALFALFA WEEVIL (Hypera postica) - Infestations were average throughout the northern part of the State. Although all counties in the State are now infested, economic populations have developed only in the agricultural areas north of 38°30' latitude. Weather conditions during the early spring disrupted adult weevil control throughout the western areas; however, excellent controls were obtained in the northeastern part of the State. Cool, windy weather also disrupted larvae control in the western regions. Economic infestations of PEA APHID (Macrosiphum pisi) developed on first-crop alfalfa in the western regions. In Pershing County economic populations also appeared in second-crop alfalfa for the first time. In the southern regions severe infestations developed on second-crop. While the above infestations were localized, many individual farmers lost all or part of one cutting from some fields. During September severe populations of the YELLOW CLOVER APHID (Myzocallis trifolii) developed on alfalfa in the Moapa Valley of Clark County. This is the first record of this insect in the State. Localized populations of ALFALFA CATERPILLAR (Colias philodice eurytheme) required control in the southern part of the State.

ENGLISH GRAIN APHID (Macrosiphum granarium) - Infestations were general throughout grain fields in the western area; however, economic populations were mostly confined to wheat. Economic populations of cropland GRASSHOPPERS were mostly localized to individual farms and in most cases to individual fields. Dominant species were Melanoplus mexicanus, M. femur-rubrum, M. bivittatus, and M. packardi. The exception to the above were severe populations of Camnula pellucida in the northeastern regions of the State where thousands of acres of native meadow hay and pasture lands were infested and required control.

Miscellaneous Forage Insects: Damaging populations of LYGUS BUGS, ALFALFA LEAF MINER, THRIPS, and the VARIEGATED CUTWORM were present in localized infestations, but other than in seed alfalfa no control was undertaken.

Fruit Insects: CODLING MOTH, PEACH TWIG BORER, PEACH APHID & WOOLLY APPLE APHID were present in average numbers in most areas. Infestations of PEAR-SLUG (Caliroa cerasi) were numerous and severe on both pear and cherry trees in the area around Reno, some trees being completely defoliated.

Truck Crop Insects: CORN EARWORM (Heliothis sp.) severely damaged sweet corn in Washoe and Churchill Counties. Most field corn plantings had economic populations. ONION MAGGOT (Hylemya antiqua) populations were lighter than in recent years; however, Lyon County lost some acreage during May. ONION THRIPS (Thrips tabaci) populations were normal in all areas requiring two and in some instances three control treatments. Migrations from alfalfa hay fields to onion fields is very heavy during hay harvest. The BLACK CUTWORM (Agrotis ypsilon) destroyed some onion acreage in both Mason and Smith Valleys of Lyon County during early May.

Cotton Insects: No serious insect pests of cotton developed on the cotton acreage in southern Nye and Clark Counties, but localized infestations of TWO-SPOTTED MITE, COTTON APHID, and ARMYWORMS did require limited control measures.

Forest, Ornamental and Shade Tree Insects: The most serious pests of shade trees in Nevada are the ELM LEAF BEETLE, EUROPEAN ELM SCALE, WILLOW APHID, COTTONWOOD BORER, and WILLOW BORER. The degree of infestation and distribution of these insects is becoming more general especially in the areas of western Nevada adjacent to Reno. The PINE NEEDLE SCALE (Phenacaspis pinifoliae) is becoming more general with individual trees severely infested in Washoe County. The VIRGINIA CREEPER LEAFHOPPER (Erythroneura ziczac) again defoliated most of the Virginia creeper in western Nevada.

Insects Affecting Man and Animals: LICE, HORN FLY, CATTLE GRUB, WOOL MAGGOT, SHEEP KED, STABLE FLIES, HOUSE FLIES AND EAR TICKS were present in average numbers considering the use of control methods developed in recent years. MOSQUITO populations were lighter in all areas except around irrigated lands where populations were normal.

Miscellaneous: Miscellaneous insects affecting household and home gardens received considerable attention, probably due in part to the rapid development of urban areas and drought conditions. CLOVER MITE and SPIDERS caused more trouble than in past years. Other insects of note were EARWIGS, APHIDS, CUTWORMS, MITES, LEAFHOPPERS, THRIPS, and BORERS. TERMITES received their usual attention and are becoming more general, especially in western Nevada.

For the past few years two groups of insects have required increasing attention. MITES have developed severe populations on many agricultural crops and have become a serious pest to the home gardener, while APHID infestations have become more general both to agricultural areas and home gardens throughout the State.